

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): A boot band comprising :

[[(1)]] a band body that is wound for clamping on a member as a ring around a member to be clamped, in such a way that an outer-layer portion of said band body overlaps an inner-layer portion of ~~the~~ said band body,

[[(2)]] an engagement hole ~~that is~~ formed in the outer-layer portion of ~~the~~ said band,

[[(3)]] an engagement pawl ~~that is~~ formed in the inner-layer portion of ~~the~~ said band body and that engages with said engagement hole so as to maintain ~~the~~ said band body in a clamped condition,

[[(4)]] a first boot-band pawl ~~that is~~ formed on ~~the~~ a top end at and the end of the outer-layer portion of the band,

[[(5)]] a planar end ~~that is~~ formed in ~~the~~ said outer-layer portion of ~~the~~ said band body, and is located ~~closer/~~ nearer to ~~the~~ said top end of ~~the~~ said outer-layer portion than the first boot-band pawl is,

[[(6)]] a second boot-band pawl ~~that is~~ formed in the inner-layer portion of ~~the~~ said band body, has an opening into which ~~the~~ said top end can be inserted, and a pressing part that presses, [[—]] and from the outside, [[—]] the end that is inserted into said opening, and clamps ~~the~~ said band body together with ~~the~~ said first boot-band pawl, and

[[(7)]] a slit ~~that is~~ formed between ~~the~~ said first boot-band pawl and ~~the~~ said engagement hole in ~~the~~ said outer-layer portion of ~~the~~ said band body.

2. (currently amended): A boot band, for clamping on a member comprising :

[[(1)]] a band body that is wound as a ring around [[a]] the member to be clamped, in such a way that the band body's outer-layer portion overlaps the inner-layer portion of the band body,

[[(2)]] an engagement hole ~~that is~~ formed in ~~the~~ said outer-layer portion of ~~the~~ said band body,

[[(3)]] an engagement pawl ~~that is~~ formed in ~~the~~ said inner-layer portion of ~~the~~ said band body and that engages with said engagement hole so as to maintain ~~the~~ said band body in a clamped condition,

[[(4)]] a first boot-band pawl ~~that is~~ formed on [[the]] a top end at and the end of the outer-layer portion of [[the]] said band body,

[[(5)]] a planar end ~~that is~~ formed in [[the]] said outer-layer portion of [[the]] said band body, and is located ~~closer~~/nearer to the top end of the outer-layer portion than the first boot-band pawl is,

[[(6)]] a second boot-band pawl ~~that is~~ formed in [[the]] said inner-layer portion of [[the]] said band body, has an opening into which [[the]] said top end can be inserted, and a pressing part that presses — [[—]] from the outside [[—]] the end that is inserted into said opening, and clamps [[the]] said band body together with the first boot-band pawl,

[[(7)]] a slit ~~that is~~ formed between [[the]] said first boot-band pawl and the engagement hole in the outer-layer portion of the band, and

[[(8)]] a temporary-tacking pawl ~~that is~~ formed on [[the]] said inner-layer portion of [[the]] said band body, and is inserted into and engaged with said slit, so that [[the]] said band body is made to be in a temporary-tacking condition in a ring-like form.

3. (currently amended): A boot band, for clamping on a member comprising :

[[(1)]] a band body that is wound as a ring around [[a]] the member to be clamped, in such a way that the band body's outer-layer portion overlaps the inner-layer portion of the band body,

[[(2)]] an engagement hole ~~that is~~ formed in ~~the~~ said outer-layer portion of ~~the~~ said band body,

[[(3)]] an engagement pawl ~~that is~~ formed in ~~the~~ said inner-layer portion of ~~the~~ said band body and that engages with said engagement hole so as to maintain ~~the~~ said band body in a clamped condition,

[[(4)]] a first boot-band pawl ~~that is~~ formed on [[the]] a top end at and the end of the

outer-layer portion of ~~[[the]]~~ said band body,

~~[[5]]~~ a planar end ~~that is~~ formed in ~~[[the]]~~ said outer-layer portion of ~~[[the]]~~ said band body, and is located ~~closer~~/nearer to the top end of the outer-layer portion than the first boot-band pawl is,

~~[[6]]~~ a second boot-band pawl ~~that is~~ formed in ~~[[the]]~~ said inner-layer portion of ~~[[the]]~~ said band body, has an opening into which ~~[[the]]~~ said top end can be inserted, and a pressing part that presses — ~~[[—]]~~ from the outside ~~[[—]]~~ the end that is inserted into said opening, and clamps ~~[[the]]~~ said band body together with the first boot-band pawl,

~~[[7]]~~ a reinforcing part ~~that is~~ formed between ~~[[the]]~~ said second boot-band pawl and the engagement pawl.

4. (currently amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The boot band as set forth in ~~Claim 3~~ claim 3, and wherein ~~[[the]]~~ said reinforcing part is a rib that is formed between the second boot-band pawl and ~~[[the]]~~ said engagement pawl, ~~[[and]]~~ in the circumferential direction.

5. (currently amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The boot band as described in ~~any of Claims 1—~~ claim 1 through 3, ~~[[and]]~~ wherein an enlarged portion that is on the side of the engagement hole, — ~~[[—]]~~ which has a shape that corresponds to that of the rear face of the engagement pawl, — ~~[[—]]~~ and that is enlarged outward in the radial direction, is formed on the end face at the rear (~~in the clamping direction~~) of said engagement hole.

6. (currently amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The boot band as described in ~~Claim~~ claim 1 or 2, wherein an enlarged portion that is on the side of the slit, — ~~which~~ has a shape that corresponds to that of the back face of the engagement pawl, — ~~and that~~ is enlarged outward in the radial direction is formed on the end face at the rear (~~in the clamping direction~~) of said slit.

7. (currently amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The boot band as described in ~~any of Claims~~ claim 1 through 3, ~~[[and]]~~ wherein the end-section top portion of said outer-layer portion is curved inward in the radial direction and has a curvature larger than that of the ring-diameter of the band

body.

8. (new): The boot band as described in claim 2, wherein an enlarged portion that is on the side of the engagement hole, which has a shape that corresponds to that of the rear face of the engagement pawl, and that is enlarged outward in the radial direction, is formed on the end face at the rear of said engagement hole.

9. (new): The boot band as described in claim 3, wherein an enlarged portion that is on the side of the engagement hole, which has a shape that corresponds to that of the rear face of the engagement pawl, and that is enlarged outward in the radial direction, is formed on the end face at the rear of said engagement hole.

10. (new): The boot band as described in claim 2, wherein
an enlarged portion that is on the side of the slit, has a shape that corresponds to that of the back face of the engagement pawl, is enlarged outward in the radial direction is formed on the end face at the rear of said slit.

11. (new): The boot band as described in claim 2, wherein the end-section top portion of said outer-layer portion is curved inward in the radial direction and has a curvature larger than that of the ring-diameter of the band body.

12. (new): The boot band as described in claim 3, wherein the end-section top portion of said outer-layer portion is curved inward in the radial direction and has a curvature larger than that of the ring-diameter of the band body.

13. (new): The boot band of claim 5, wherein said enlarged portion is formed on the end face in the clamping direction of said engagement hole.

14. (new): The boot band of claim 6, wherein said enlarged portion is formed on the end face in the clamping direction of said engagement hole.

15. (new): The boot band of claim 8, wherein said enlarged portion is formed on the end face in the clamping direction of said engagement hole.

16. (new): The boot band of claim 9, wherein said enlarged portion is formed on the end face in the clamping direction of said engagement hole.